

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 AGR-20 RSC-01 AID-20 EB-11 AF-10 ARA-16 EA-11

EUR-25 NEA-10 COME-00 ISO-00 IOE-00 OIC-04 SS-20

NSC-10 L-03 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-04 PRS-01

USIA-15 DRC-01 /207 W

----- 052797

P R 211600Z NOV 73

FM AMEMBASSY ROME

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1972

INFO USMISSION USUN

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USMISSION GENEVA

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FODAG

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAGR, FAO

SUBJECT: 17TH FAO CONFERENCE: PARTICIPATION OF AFRICAN LIBERATION
MOVEMENTS IN FAO MEETINGS.

PARIS FOR UNESCO

1. IN COMMISSION II WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 21 TANZANIA TABLED DRAFT
RESOLUTION INTENDED AUTHORIZE PARTICIPATION AFRICAN LIBERATION
MOVEMENTS IN "FAO MEETINGS, SEMINARS AND TRAINING CENTERS AND SUCH
OTHER ACTIVITIES UNDERTAKEN OR SPONSORED BY FAO/WFP. TANZANIAN
DELEGATE SAID RESOLUTION HAD FULL SUPPORT ALL, REPEAT ALL, AFRICAN
COUNTRIES. CHAIR NOTED DRAFT MUST BE SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS
COMMITTEE BUT PERMITTED EXTENSIVE COMMENTS TO BE MADE. RANZANIAN
INTERVENTION WAS PRECEDED BY LEGAL ADVISER COMMENT THAT THE UN,
ILO AND UNDESCO HAD FOUND IT POSSIBLE TO MAKE ARRANGEMENTS IN
CONSULTATION WITH OAU FOR THE PARTICIPATION OF THE LIBERATION
MOVEMENTS. HE SAID NO AGENCIES, REPEAT NO AGENCIES, HAD
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FOUND IT NECESSARY TO CHANGE THEIR REGULATIONS IN ORDER TO ALLOW

SUCH PARTICIPATION. PORTUGAL SPOKE FIRST SAYING DRAFT APPEARED TO BE MAINLY POLITICAL IN NATURE. FAO BASIC TEXTS CONTAINED NO ARTICLE ALLOWING PARTICIPATION AS PROPOSED. A FLOOD OF AFRICAN NATIONS SPOKE IN SUPPORT ALONG WITH NUMEROUS EASTERN EUROPEAN AND MIDDLE EAST COUNTRIES AND CUBA AND CHINA. SWEDEN AND NETHERLANDS PROMISED SYMPATHETIC CONSIDERATION. THE DRAFT RESOLUTION, TO BE CONSIDERED BY THE RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE LATE WEDNESDAY, AND VOTED PROBABLY ON THURSDAY MORNING READS AS FOLLOWS: (1) THE CONFERENCE NOTING WITH SATISFACTION THAT, IN KEEPING WITH ITS REQUEST AS EXPRESSED IN ITS RESOLUTION 8/71, AND THE ECOSOC RESOLUTION 1804 (LV) OF 1973, THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL HAD PURSUED HIS EFFORTS "TO IMPLEMENT THE RELEVANT GENERAL ASSEMBLY RESOLUTIONS WITHIN THE MANDATES OF FAO, AND TO MAKE PERIODIC REPORTS TO THE COUNCIL...". (2) WELCOMING THE PARTICIPATION OF AFRICAN LIBERATION MOVEMENTS IN FAO MEETINGS, SEMINARS AND TRAINING CENTERS AND SUCH OTHER ACTIVITIES UNDERTAKEN OR SPONSORED BY FAO/WFP. (3) AFFIRMING THAT PARTICIPATION OF AFRICAN LIBERATION MOVEMENTS IN FAO/WFP MEETINGS AND OTHER ACTIVITIES UNDERTAKEN BY FAO/WFP WOULD ULTIMATELY CONTRIBUTE TO THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT OF THE TERRITORIES LIBERATED OR UNDER THE CONTROL OF THE LIBERATION MOVEMENTS IN AFRICA. (4) DECIDES TO REQUEST THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL TO MAKE THE NECESSARY ARRANGEMENTS THROUGH OAU TO FACILITATE THE PARTICIPATION OF REPRESENTATIVES OF LIBERATION MOVEMENTS IN AFRICA, WITH IMMEDIATE EFFECT. (5) AUTHORIZES THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL TO INVITE, THROUGH OAU, REPRESENTATIVES OF AFRICAN LIBERATION MOVEMENTS, TO ATTEND REGIONAL AND TECHNICAL CONFERENCES AND CONSULTATIONS CONVENED IN AFRICA UNDER ARTICLE VI, PARA 5 OF THE CONSTITUTION INCLUDING THE AFRICAN REGIONAL CONFERENCE AND TO PARTICIPATE IN THE DELIBERATIONS ON ITEMS DEALT WITH AT SUCH CONFERENCES AND CONSULTATIONS THAT MAY BE OF DIRECT

CONCERN TO THE LIBERATION MOVEMENTS. (6) INVITES THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL TO REPORT TO THE COUNCIL PERIODICALLY ON THE MEASURES TAKEN IN COLLABORATION WITH OAU, TO FACILITATE THE PARTICIPATION OF LIBERATION MOVEMENTS IN MEETINGS CONVENED, AND RELATED ACTIVITIES UNDERTAKEN OR SPONSORED BY FAO/WFP."

2. FOLLOWING DEBATE AUSTRALIAN DELEGATE APPROACHED TANZANIA AND SUGGESTED INSERTION WORDS "AS NECESSARY AND APPROPRIATE" IN PARA 2 OF DRAFT RESOLUTION AND SAID THIS WOULD PROBABLY MAKE DRAFT MORE ACCEPTABLE TO CERTAIN GOVERNMENTS WHICH HAD CHOSEN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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RESERVE COMMENTS UNTIL DRAFT RESOLUTION CIRCULATED. TANZANIAN DELEGATE PROMISED GIVE SERIOUS CONSIDERATION TO SUCH AN AMENDMENT. WITH REGARD REFERENCE OF WFP IN PARAS 2, 3 AND 6 OF DRAFT, WE ARE INCLINED BELIEVE RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE WILL SUGGEST DELETION WFP. OTHER QUESTIONS SUCH AS HOW ARRANGEMENTS WILL BE MADE THROUGH OAU OR INVITATIONS ISSUED THROUGH THAT BODY ARE YET UNCLEAR. ADDITIONAL ITEM WAS WHETHER PARA 4 WOULD IMPLY PARTICIPATION IN CURRENT SESSION CONFERENCE IF ADOPTED. SEE COMMENT FOLLOWING.

3. DEL WILL BE SEEKING CLARIFICATION THESE ITEMS THORUGHOUT DAY AND IN RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE, ON WHICH WE REPRESENTED. IF MODIFICATIONS ALONG LINES SUGGESTED BY AUSTRALIA CAN BE ACHIEVED AND CLARIFICATIONS RE PROCEDURES AND UNDERSTANDINGS APPEAR SATISFACTOR, WE WILL, UNLESS INSTRUCTED OTHERWISE, ABSTAIN REPEAT ABSTAIN WHEN ITEM IS VOTED TOMORROW. IN SHORT, PARTICIPATION IN SOME FORM IS ENEVITABLE. ALSO WE MAY HELP CHANNEL BUT CANNOT PREVENT. FAILING OBTAIN AMENDMENTS/CLARIFICATIONS OUTLINED ABOVE, WILL VOTE AGAINST WHILE MAKING BRIEF EXPLANATION REASON THEREFORE.

4. DURING DEBATE TANZANIA AND OTHERS MENTIONED THAT THEY WISHED ALSO RAISE MATTER OF FAO ASSISTANCE TO LIBERATION MOVEMENTS BUT WOULD PRESENT THESE VIEWS IN COMMISSION II ON THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 22.

5. COMMENT: PARA 4 RES RAISES AN ISSUE NOT RAISED BEFORE IN VARIOUS PROPOSALS TO ACCOMODATE LIB MOVEMENTS, IE.E. UNQUALIFIED AND IMMEDIATE "PARTICIPATION" OF REPS OF MOVEMENTS. RE CAREFULLY DELINEATED AND LIMITED PARTICIPATION IN PARA 5 DRAFT REF. AMB. FERGUSON OF OPINION THIS IS DELIBERATE STEP IN SCENARIO TO EVENTUALLY GET EQUIVALENT OF RECOGNITION. VOLPE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FOOD ASSISTANCE, MEETINGS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 21 NOV 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973ROME12911
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: ROME
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19731120/aaaaaoby.tel
Line Count: 138
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION IO
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 18 SEP 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <18-Sep-2001 by kelleyw0>; APPROVED <21-Nov-2001 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: 17TH FAO CONFERENCE: PARTICIPATION OF AFRICAN LIBERATION MOVEMENTS IN FAO MEETINGS.
TAGS: EAGR, FAO
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005